

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOMBAY 01183 151152Z

ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
DOEE-00 PM-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03  
NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15  
SP-02 CEQ-01 /110 W

-----103864 151156Z /46

O 151126Z MAY 78

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8250

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BOMBAY 1183

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IN

SUBJ: HEAVY WATER

REF: A) STATE 121005

B) STATE 106266

C) NEW DELHI 6714

1. I ORALLY CONVEYED OUR OFFER OF 75 METRIC TONS (TONNES) OF HEAVY WATER TO IAEC CHAIRMAN SETHNA THIS AFTERNOON, FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTELS BERY CLOSELY. IN ESSENCE, I TOLD SETHNA THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS PREPARED TO RECOMMEND SHIPMENT OF HEAVY WATER TO INDIA FOR RAPP II PROVIDED GOI AGREES TO PLACE EQUAL AMOUNT OF INDIGENOUSLY PRODUCED HEAVY WATER UNDER IAEC SAFEGUARDS FOR USE IN ONE OR MORE CURRENTLY UNSAFEGUARDED REACTORS. SETHNA NOTED THAT HIS TWO REACTORS COMING ON STREAM IN NEXT TWO YEARS REQUIRED EITHER MORE OR LESS THAN THE 75 TONNES IN QUESTION. HE NOTED THAT R 5 REQUIRED ONLY 50 TONNES FOR INITIAL CHARGE WHILE RAPP I NEEDED OVER 200 TONNES. I EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE DEALING WITH HIS REQUEST FOR 75 TONNES FOR THE RAPP II REACTOR AND THAT THE DEVICE OF SAFEGUARDING THE EQUIVALENT AMOUNT IN OTHER REACTORS

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NOT NOW UNDER SAFEGUARDS WAS DESIGNED TO MEET A REQUISITE OF U.S. POLICY WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND SAFE-GUARDS.

2. I EMPHASISED THAT THIS APPROACH WAS INFORMAL AND THAT WE HOPED THAT IF OUR OFFER WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOI SETHNA WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO LET THE MATTER

LIE AND AVOID ANY ESCALATION OF THE HEAVY WATER ISSUE INTO A CONFRONTATION. SETHNA SAID THAT WHILE HE COULD NOT GIVE AN IMMEDIATE REPLY ON SUBSTANCE OF OUR OFFER, HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT IF THE GOI FOUND IT COULD NOT ACCEPT OFFER, HE WOULD "LET IT DROP CLEANLY AND WITHOUT ANY FUSS." HE SAID THIS MATTER SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ADD TO OUR ALREADY CONSIDERABLE PROBLEMS IN COOPERATION IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD.

3. I MADE CLEAR TO SETHNA THAT IF THE OFFER IS ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE WE WILL WANT TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF TRANSFER AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL WITH THE GOI BECAUSE WE HAVE TO ANTICIPATE THAT THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLE QUESTIONING OF THE PROPOSAL IN THE U.S. BY THOSE ELEMENTS WHO HAVE CHALLENGED RECENT SHIPMENTS OF ENRICHED URANIUM TO INDIA.

4. SETHNA SAID THAT HE IS GOING BACK TO DELHI ON MAY 17 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PM'S UPCOMING VISIT TO U.S. AND WILL LET ME HAVE HIS RESPONSE ON HIS RETURN ON MAY 19.

COURTNEY

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEAVY WATER, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** HEAVY WATER  
**TAGS:** TECH, ENRG, IN, US, (SETHNA, HOMI N)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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